THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICAN

Y. Hirumi, et al.

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 9792909-5345

FILING DATE:

10/080,246 February 21, 2002

GROUP ART UNIT: 2672 unknown **EXAMINER:**

INVENTION:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PRINTING THE IMAGE AND INFORMATION

ASSOCIATED THEREWITH

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration in the above-identified application. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

\boxtimes	Within 3 months (1) of filing date of a national application; (2) of date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last. (No fee is required.)
	After the mailing date of a first Office Action but before (1) mailing of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113; or (2) mailing of a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first. Payment for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) accompanies this submission; or
	The certification specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is made below. (No fee is required.)
	After the mailing of (1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113; or (2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311 whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee. The certification specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is made below. The Commissioner hereby is petitioned to consider the Information Disclosure Statement accompanying this submission. Payment for the Petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) accompanies this submission.
	The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies each item of information identified in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
	The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, or to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
	A check in the amount of \$ to cover any required fee is enclosed.
\boxtimes	The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 19-3140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for this purpose.
	Very respectfully,
	SOMNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL
	() MOLL RECEIVED

When phoning re this application, please call (312) 876-8000

David R. Metzger Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal P.O. Box 061080 Wacker Drive Station, Sears Tower Chicago, Illinois 60606

JUL 1 7 2002

Technology Center 2600

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents at the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington D.C. on July 3, 2002.__



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATED THEREWITH

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

SIR:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants request that citation and examination of the references identified on the attached PTO-1449 form, copies of which are enclosed herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98, be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

I. SUBMITTED UNITED STATES PATENT REFERENCES

Reference	Number	<u>Patentee</u>	Issue Date
A1	6,164,849	Koyama	December 26, 2000
A2	6,128,038	Nakajima	October 3, 2000
A3	5,458,713	Ojster	October 17, 1995
A4	5,689,326	Yamada	November 18, 1997
A5	5,550,624	Wachtler	August 27, 1996

II. SUBMITTED FOREIGN PATENT REFERENCES

Reference	<u>Number</u>	Country	Date of Publication
R1	0958143	EP	24 November 1999

III OTHER DOCUMENTS

Reference Title/Author

Date of Publication

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IV. EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

The references were cited in the European Search Report dated June 6, 2002, in connection with counterpart European Patent Application No. 02003747.9-1241. A copy of the Search Report is submitted herewith.

Submitted by,

David R. Metzger (Reg. 32,919)

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Telephone: 312/876-8000

Attorneys for Applicant(s)

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DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

EXAMINER

(Form PTO-1449)